United States of America

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE[1]

Agenda Item 1.6: ***to consider additional allocations for the aeronautical mobile (R) service in parts of the bands between 108 MHz and 6 GHz, in accordance with Resolution 414 (WRC-03) and, to study current satellite frequency allocations that will support the modernization of civil aviation telecommunication systems, taking into account Resolution 415 (WRC-03);***

Background Information: This proposal is concerned with Resolution **415**, Secondary Allocations for AMSS (space-to-Earth) in the 11/12 GHz bands.

With ever increasing speed, existing and new communications systems are being based on Internet related protocols and services. Access to these services with sufficient bandwidth is becoming essential for all forms of telecommunications. Communications with aircraft are not exempt from this growing dependence on Internet applications. Aircraft owners and operators are realizing that without this access aeronautical operations will be hindered from gaining the efficiencies and benefits that these types of service offer. Internet usage is fast becoming dependent on broadband connectivity. A demonstrated viable means of providing this connectivity for mobile platforms on an intercontinental basis is through satellite channels.

The availability of this broadband communications capability on board aircraft will promote the efficiency of aircraft operations and provide access to information, such as enhanced weather data, hitherto inaccessible to aircraft in flight.

The ITU-R recognized that the use of the 14.0-14.5 GHz band for Aeronautical Mobile-Satellite Service (AMSS) on a Secondary basis was compatible with current Fixed-Satellite Service (FSS) systems and was supported by studies leading up to WRC-03. Additional studies in the ITU-R also confirmed compatibility with other Services in the 14.0-14.5 GHz range. At WRC-03, the decision was made to expand the secondary MSS allocation in the 14-14.5GHz band to include AMSS (Earth-to-space). This decision has enabled the use of Internet applications by aircrews and passengers.

Related to this decision, there were discussions of a downlink that could be used with this new uplink allocation and it was concluded at the 14th Plenary Meeting that:

1. The downlink (space-to-Earth) bands associated with the secondary mobile-satellite service allocation shall be:

    - In Region 1, 10.7-11.7 GHz and 12.5-12.75 GHz;
    - In Region 2, 10.7-12.2 GHz;
    - In Region 3, 10.7-11.7 GHz and 12.2-12.75 GHz.

2. The use of the downlink (space-to-Earth) bands listed above by the aeronautical mobile-satellite service shall be under the provisions of No. **4.4**.

While a corresponding downlink allocation in the 11/12 GHz bands would address the lack of an AMSS downlink in the allocations table, many administrations have voiced opinions that such a new allocation is not covered under Agenda Item 1.6, Resolution 415. Because of these strong views, no allocation is proposed.

[1] This proposal is a replacement for an earlier United States' proposal for Resolution 415.

Proposal

USA/ /1 NOC ARTICLE 5 Frequency allocations, 10.7 – 12.75 GHz

USA/ /2 NOC 5.504A

Reasons: Under agenda 1.11 at WRC-2003, the secondary allocation at 14-14.5 GHz to the mobile-satellite service (MSS) was extended to include the aeronautical mobile-satellite service (AMSS). The corresponding AMSS downlink bands at 12 GHz are used under the provisions of RR 4.4. While a corresponding new downlink allocation in the 11/12 GHz bands would address the lack of an AMSS downlink in the allocations table, such a new allocation, in the view of many administrations, is not covered under Agenda Item 1.6.